NPIC/B-149-70

6 MAY 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: CIA Member, USIB Computer Security Subcommittee

THROUGH : Chief, DDI Planning Staff

SUBJECT : Draft "Minimum Security Requirements for Multi-Level Computer Systems"

1. The subject paper is a constructive and realistic approach to the security problems associated with the implementation of the multi-level remotely accessed computer systems. We hope for speedy approval of the draft and issuance of it as community policy. We shall have to make some slight modifications to NPIC's programs and procedures before seeking accreditation under the policy but we shall be happy to do so to get a multi-level operation underway.

2. Our only comment on the substance of the paper is the observation that log-on with a "unique code" seems a weak approach to the problem of user authentication, at least by comparison to the other safeguards in the paper. On the other hand, the only stronger alternative known to us (i.e., the one-time pad approach) seems stronger than should be needed in a benign environment. We are willing to implement either approach.
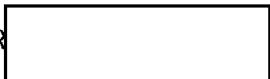
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